MINUTES OF MEETING State Board of Education May 11, 2006

The May 11 meeting of the State Board of Education was held at the State Board Conference Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines. Board members Gene Vincent, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Brian Gentry, Rosie Hussey, Wayne Kobberdahl, Mary Jean Montgomery, Max Phillips and John Jessen were present. Charlie Edwards and Jackie Dout were absent. Director Judy Jeffrey and Department staff Gail Sullivan, Lee Tack, Carol Greta, Jeff Berger, Kathi Slaughter, Pam Pfitzenmaier, Jan Friedel, Beverly Bunker, Max Christensen, Bill Silag, Debbie Boring, Tony Heiting, Kathy McKee, Rita Martens, Jim Reese, Arlie Willems, Dale Gruis, Michelle Wendel, John Hartwig, Steve Wooderson, Matt Coulter, Lee Ann Russo, Kenda Jo Kimpson, and Beverlee Adams were also present. Others present were Dwayne Ferguson, Legislative Services Agency; Klark Jessen and Anita Walker, parents of student Board member John Jessen; Margaret Buckton, Iowa Association of School Boards; persons representing Des Moines School appeal; Megan Hawkins, Des Moines Register, Michelle Parker, KCCI-TV: Jen Geigley and Bethany Kohoutek, City View; Courtney Kinter. KCCI-TV; Drew Bracken, Des Moines Independent Schools; Hope Bossard, Gilbert Community Schools: Phyllis Stayden, West Des Moines Schools; Richard Lee, Cedar Rapids Gazette; Alissa Jourdan, Kemin Industries, Inc.; Luanne Schneider, Waterloo Community Schools; Steve Goodell, Anamosa Community Schools; Steve Farrell, Shirley Fossey, Elizabeth Gerdes, Chernor Jalloh, Cedar Falls High School Transition Alliance Program: David Bunting, Kirkwood Community College; Robert Exley, Iowa Western Community College; Michael Morrison, North Iowa Area Community College; William Giddings, Northwest Iowa Community College; and Harold Prior, Algona Community School District

Director Judy Jeffrey, presiding officer, called the meeting to order.

It was moved by Rosie Hussey and seconded by Wayne Kobberdahl to approve the agenda as written.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Department director Judy Jeffrey presided over the meeting for the purpose of electing a board president. She also welcomed new State Board members, Brian Gentry and student member John Jessen. Jackie Dout was also appointed to the Board, but not present at the May meeting.

Rosie Hussey nominated Gene Vincent for president of the State Board. Mr. Vincent accepted the nomination. Nominations ceased and a roll call vote was called.

Voting aye on the nomination of Gene Vincent as president: Fitzpatrick, Gentry, Mongomery, Hussey, Koberdahl, Phillips and Vincent. Gene Vincent was elected Board president and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick nominated Rosie Hussey as vice-president.

Rosie Hussey accepted the nomination. Nominations ceased and a roll call vote was called.

Voting aye on the nomination of vice president: Fitzpatrick, Gentry, Montgomery, Hussey, Kobberdahl, Phillips and Vincent.

Rosie Hussey was elected vice-president.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Director Report

Director Judy Jeffrey reported on the following items:

- Participated in a recognition ceremony for 44 Career and Technical student leaders at the State Historical Building in March
- Spoke at the FFA Convention in Ames for a large audience of students
- Addressed and welcomed the Family Career and Community Leaders of America to Des Moines
- Visited with the Capitol Project Students—high school students that participate in how the legislative process works. Jeffrey

asked these students what they wanted in a teacher and shared their responses:

- o passion
- o fair and unbiased
- understanding/caring
- o firm
- o creative
- o have engaging classrooms
- o deep knowledge of subject area
- o flexibility in learning process
- o thinking challenged
- o move from where they were to real world problems
- o integrity
- o focused on instruction

Jeffrey felt these students had high expectations of their teachers and the learning process.

- Visited early childhood classrooms in Columbus Junction and West Marshall School Districts
- Attended the Rose Garden Ceremony for Teacher of the Year Jackie Warnstadt from Sioux City
- Attended the Milken Awards Recognition in Washington, D.C.– two lowa teachers are recipients
- Attended the Iowa award ceremonies for Teacher of the Year and Milken recipients
- Exploring possible collaboration between Iowa and India as well as Great Britain and Shanghai in math, early childhood education, and the World Food Prize
- Interviewed candidates for teacher exchange program in Taiwan
- Participated in a Teacher Compensation Policy Forum in Wilmington, Delaware with Jan Reinicke, ISEA; Jodi Butler, Institute for Tomorrow's Workforce; Senator Paul McKinley and Senator Frank Wood
- Attended Chief State School Officers Annual Legislative meeting in Washington, D.C. and was appointed CCSSO Co-Chair of a task force to look at math and science education in United States
- Provided an update on U.S. Department of Education status on testing of lowa teachers

Legislative Update

Jeff Berger, Legislative Liaison, thanked the Board members for the efforts contributed to the legislative work of this year's session. Berger indicated he would provide a more detailed report at the upcoming State Board retreat.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

The minutes of the March 30, 2006 State Board of Education meeting were approved.

Rules: Chapter 44 – School Transportation

Max Christensen, School Transportation, provided information for this agenda item. He said it had been over seven years since a thorough review of chapter 44 had been conducted. In that time bus technology has advanced to the extent that several provisions were outdated. Pertinent federal regulations have updated terminology used in the industry, and the rule changes are an attempt to bring Iowa more in line with national standards enunciated by the National Congress on School Transportation. Christensen reviewed these rules with other school transportation personnel, school bus manufacturers and bus distributors. All were in agreement of the changes to chapter 44.

State Board members discussed these rule amendments and asked about the cost increase involved. Mr. Christensen indicated the major benefits of the amendments were twofold: 1) increased safety to students and other passengers; and 2) conforming more of the lowa rules to national standards so bus manufacturers will not have to make as many modifications to the vehicles sold in lowa as they do at present. The fiscal impact statement indicated the cost would be less than \$500 per school bus.

Motion: It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick to approve the Notice of Intended Action to Chapter 44.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Charter School Request for Approval (Dubuque)

Debbie Boring, School Improvement Consultant, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education presented Dubuque's charter school application. The local school board has approved the charter school application as have the teachers and parents of students impacted by the charter school application. The application requires State Board approval to receive the charter school status.

The proposed charter school will be an elementary school serving students in kindergarten through fifth grades. The school will include a

day care for infants and toddlers of high school students in the Dubuque Community School District, two grant-funded preschool programs, and one Headstart Preschool Program. The instructional design will more actively engage students in the learning process and make stronger connections between their academic learning and their application of learning to the real world. Increased motivation will serve to increase student attendance and ultimately, student achievement.

The evaluation process and tools used for measuring success or assessment for charter schools and the data available were discussed.

Motion: It was moved by Max Phillips and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick to approve the Prescott Elementary, An Expeditionary Learning School for the Arts (Dubuque Community School District) charter school.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Chapter 24 – Community College Accreditation

Beverly Bunker, Chief and Bill Silag, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education provided information for the proposed rule amendments.

Bunker indicated the rules addressing state accreditation of Iowa community colleges have been in place for more than 10 years. Continuous quality improvement (CQI) has become the key principle in evaluating academic programming and other aspects of community college operations. The proposed revisions in the rules will facilitate evaluation of the colleges' institutional effectiveness in a framework of CQI standards and benchmarks. The rule amendments also align the state accreditation process more with the required regional accreditation process conducted by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Silag stated the changes would be effective prior to the first cycle of accreditation visits for the 2006-07 school year.

The Board expressed their appreciation for the work of staff on the accreditation visits and the progress made in improving the process.

Motion: It was moved by Wayne Kobberdahl and seconded by Rosie Hussey to approve Chapter 24, Community College Accreditation for Notice of Intended Action.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Community College Presidents' Report on College Placement Educational Opportunities for High School Students

Janice Friedel, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges, said the college placement report is a collective response of Iowa community college presidents describing community college opportunities for high school students. In the fall of 2005, the Iowa community college presidents appointed Dr. Michael Morrison, president of North Iowa Area Community College, to convene a respected group of community college leaders to identify "principles of best practices" in offering college courses and programs to high school students. Friedel indicated this report summarizes the strong partnership initiatives between community colleges and K-12 school districts to offer college courses and programs while students are still in high school. This initiative is an essential means for assuring that Iowa's high school graduates enter into the workforce and higher education as fully prepared as possible.

Friedel introduced the following individuals that were present to provide an in-depth discussion of the College Placement Educational Opportunities for High School Students report findings:

David Bunting, Executive Director, Secondary Programs Kirkwood Community College

Robert Exley, Vice President of Academic Affairs Iowa Western Community College

Michael Morrison, President North Iowa Area Community College

Harold Prior, Superintendent Algona Community School District

Appeal Decisions

Carol Greta, Legal Consultant, provided an overview of appeal decision In re Closing of Moore Elementary, Edmunds Academy, Adams Elementary, Cowles Elementary and Central Campus.

On July 12, 2005, the Des Moines school board voted to close certain of its attendance centers. The decision occurred as a result of a mid-program review of the District's Ten Year Plan (which commenced in 1999) for creating "21st" Century Schools." Five years into the Ten Year Plan, the District was faced with declining enrollments, declining revenues, and increased costs. The decision to close the affected attendance centers was a marked departure from the District's original

Ten-Year Plan. The District did, however, comply with all seven criteria relating to process of the *Barker guidelines*.

Judge Greta indicated the Appellants filed an appeal of the Proposed Decision. The Appellants requested oral argument; but a subcommittee of the Board denied that request. Ms. Greta pointed out in the event of an appeal of a final decision, the State Board would be represented in district court by the Iowa Attorney General's office.

Motion: It was moved by Wayne Kobberdahl and seconded by Max Phillips that the Board approve the Administrative Law Judge's proposed decision *In re Closing of Moore Elementary, Edmunds Academy, Adams Elementary, Cowles Elementary and Central Campus.*

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Carol Greta, Administrative Law Judge, introduced the next appeal, *In re Amber Criqui*.

Motion: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Mary Jean Montgomery that the State Board hold a closed session under Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(f) to discuss a decision to be rendered in a contested case conducted according to provisions in Chapter 17A.

Vote: A roll call vote was taken as follows: Aye – Fitzpatrick, Gentry, Montgomery, Hussey, Kobberdahl, Phillips and Vincent.

Closed Session

Motion: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Rosie Hussey to approve the Administrative Law Judge's proposed decision In re Amber Criqui as presented.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Model Core Curriculum

Jim Reese, Bureau Chief and Rita Martens, Consultant, Bureau of Instructional Services presented information on this agenda item.

Director Jeffrey expressed her appreciation for the work of the Committee and felt it would propel schools forward in developing goals in the core curriculum model process. Reese indicated that the Model Core Curriculum Project was developed in response to Senate File 245, passed during the 2005 legislative session. This bill required the State Board of Education to determine a model core curriculum and set a statewide core curriculum completion rate goal of 80% of all students graduating, exclusive of students who have special or alternative means for satisfying graduation requirements under individualized education programs (IEPs).

Ms. Martens said the initial work in the model core curriculum focused on the areas of science, literacy, and mathematics. The intent of the work was twofold:

- To ensure that all lowa students have access to a vigorous and relevant curriculum to prepare them for success in postsecondary education, the workforce, and the emerging global economy, and
- 2) To provide a tool for lowa educators to use to assure that essential subject matter is being taught and essential knowledge and skills are being learned.

Martens said to accomplish this, the Department facilitated a project to articulate the essential content and skills of a world-class curriculum in the core areas of English language arts/literacy, mathematics, and science. She indicated that the Lead Team consisted of representatives from the State Board of Education, School Administrators of Iowa, the Iowa Association of School Boards, Iowa State Education Association, Parent-Teacher Association, the Institute for Tomorrow's Workforce, area education agencies, local education agencies, higher education, and community colleges. Work teams in literacy, mathematics, and science, consisting of representatives of LEAs, AEAs, DE and higher education developed draft reports identifying the essential concepts and skill sets in each content area. Work Team reports were reviewed and endorsed by the Lead Team.

Max Phillips applauded the work and questioned how this information would be communicated to the public. Sister Jude Fitzpatrick also expressed her appreciation for the extraordinary work on this project.

Motion: Max Phillips moved and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick seconded that the Board approve the Essential Concepts and Skill Sets of the Model Core Curriculum in Literacy, Mathematics, and Science and set a statewide core curriculum completion rate goal as presented.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Iowa Community Colleges Fiscal Year 2007 Certified Budget Report

Michelle Wendel, Education Program Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education reported that the State Board has statutory responsibility for approval of the community college budget. The budget report provides the Board with information necessary to review and approve the proposed budgets. This approval must be granted prior to June 1 of each year.

Wendel introduced William Giddings, President, Northwest Iowa Community College. Mr. Giddings outlined the process colleges use in preparing their annual budget. He also discussed the major budget issues for the 2007 community college budget which are as follows: 1) current and future infrastructure needs; 2) ability or inability to keep current with technology; and 3) greatest challenges regarding human resources, including projections on turnover of employees and short-term and long-term estimates on retirements.

Giddings responded to various budget questions asked by Board members.

Motion: It was moved by Wayne Kobberdahl and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick to approve the community college budgets a presented.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Practitioner Preparation Program – Clarke College

Arlie Willems, Administrative Consultant, Practitioner Preparation, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education presented an overview of the findings of the State Review Panel and the State Review Team visit to Clarke College. Dr. Michael Anderson from Clarke College was introduced. The team examined six standard areas: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty Performance and Development, Clinical Practice, Assessment of Candidate Knowledge, and Assessment of the Unit.

Willems outlined the strengths and areas of concern in each of the standard areas. The institutional response was also shared with the Board. She reported that the Clarke College program graduated 64 new teachers during the 2004-05 school year. The Clarke Education Department offers 39 endorsements as well as a Master of Arts in Education. Ms. Willems indicated the elementary program incorporates a Professional Development School, unique among lowa programs and certainly a strength in the preparation of teachers at Clarke.

Motion: It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick that the Clarke College practitioner preparation program be approved through the next scheduled state visit.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Practitioner Preparation Program – Iowa State University

Arlie Willems, Administrative Consultant, Practitioner Preparation, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education presented an overview of the findings of the State Review Panel and the State Review Team visit to Iowa State University. Dean Cheryl Achterberg and Dr. Thomas Andre of Iowa State University were introduced. The team examined six standard areas: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty Performance and Development, Clinical Practice, Assessment of Candidate Knowledge, and Assessment of the Unit.

Willems provided a review of the strengths and areas of concern in each of the standard areas. She also shared the response from the institution. Ms. Willems indicated that teacher education at ISU had begun as normal studies in 1868. There is a long tradition of a university-based teacher education program, in which some faculty members hold joint positions between education and their subject-area departmental homes.

Iowa State University graduates approximately 350 new teachers a year. The program offers 71 endorsements and employs a faculty of 72 full-time and 20 part-time instructors/professors. Willems indicated all concerns had been satisfactorily addressed and she recommended the Iowa State University teacher preparation program be approved.

Moved: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Wayne Kobberdahl to approve the Iowa State University practitioner program through the next scheduled state visit.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

President Gene Vincent announced his appointment of Wayne Kobberdahl to replace Greg McClain on the I-JAG Board.

Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS) Strategic Plan Progress Report

Steve Wooderson, Administrator and Matt Coulter, Chief Financial Officer, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services were present for this item. Mr. Wooderson provided a brief overview of the IVRS strategic plan process. Vocational rehabilitation is a federal/state funded (78.7% federal funds matched by 12.3% non-federal funds) program. Upon receipt of a referral, an applicant is evaluated for eligibility according to federal criteria outlined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended in 1998. Upon the determination of eligibility, the client may access services that are intended to lead to employment in the competitive marketplace. He said that services may include evaluation, guidance and counseling, training, assistive technology, and direct job placement.

Mr. Wooderson was pleased to introduce staff and students from the Transition Alliance Program (TAP). Persons in attendance were: Lee Ann Russo, Shirley Fossey, Steve Farrell, Chernor Jalloh, and Elizabeth Gerdes. This program began in June of 1997 after IVRS collaborated with schools in response to a grant offering "a new pattern of service". It was widely recognized that a number of students from special education programs were falling through the racks after leaving high school. These students, used to much higher levels of support, were not prepared for life after graduation. There were major gaps in their work histories and career jobs were unattainable. They often remained at home instead of developing independent living skills to increase self-sufficiency.

Cedar Falls High School (CFHS) and IVRS partnered to develop and implement a new pattern of services for youth with disabilities. The first TAP grant was awarded to CFHS, and staff that eventually included a Transition Coordinator, Transition Specialist and Instructor were hired. The goal of TAP is a continuing emphasis on creatively helping meet the needs of individual participants as they move toward independence and become productive, contributing citizens.

Two students, Chernor Jalloh and Steve Farrell answered questions and shared information about the TAP program and the valuable assistance it provided in helping them become productive citizens in the community. They expressed appreciation for the dedication and mentoring of staff in helping them with life skills in areas of academics, vocational and independent living areas.

The Board expressed their appreciation for the fortitude and contributions these students were making in their own lives and in their communities.

Iowa's Adult Literacy Program Annual Benchmark Report -- Executive Summary, Program Year 2005

John Hartwig, Educational Program Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education reviewed the 2005 Adult Literacy Benchmark Report. He commented that the goals of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (EFLA) 1) assist adults to become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and self-sufficiency (Workplace Literacy); 2) assist adults who are parents obtain the educational skills necessary to become full partners in the educational development of their children (Family Literacy); and 3) assist adults in the completion of a secondary school education.

One of the major intents of AEFLA was to establish performance measures and benchmarks to demonstrate increased accountability. The 1998 reauthorization of AEFLA made accountability for results a central focus of the new law, setting out performance accountability requirements for states and local programs that measure program effectiveness on the basis of student academic achievement and competency based outcomes.

Dr. Hartwig outlined benchmark accomplishments achieved in the State of Iowa. He said the benchmarks clearly demonstrate that Iowa's Adult Literacy Program makes a difference in the lives of those served. Board members congratulated Dr. Hartwig on the many successes of his work with the program.

Due to time constraints, the State Board Operating Guidelines agenda item was moved to the State Board Retreat for discussion.

Board Reports

<u>Sister Jude Fitzpatrick</u> reported that the Board of Regents had announced that the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School would not be closing. However, the utilization of the facility and resources will change to serve increased student population more effectively statewide. The IBSSS Coordinating Committee will become more consultative and meet less frequently as the work groups take on the challenges of this change.

Wayne Kobberdahl stated he had attended an excellent "Calories In-Calories Out" Conference in Chicago representing the State Board.

Fifty states were in attendance at the conference. Two other Department consultants also attended. The Conference speakers highlighted that obesity was one of the major problems in the student population today. The problem relates to student learning, bullying, as well as health. The William J. Clinton Foundation is working to set standards for what foods are allowed in schools. The National Beverage Foundation sponsored the Conference and were proactive in development of new products for schools. Dr. Kobberdahl suggested that the Board have a presentation on the topic of obesity. Iowa's obesity statistics are not good.

Mary Jean Montgomery said that the Iowa Public Television was pleased with the legislative response to their requests and they are on target for digital conversion. IPTV is in the process of approving the model for expansion.

The Iowa Partnership/Leadership is a group that works toward standards for preparing, maintaining, and sustaining educational administrators in this state. Because of the successes of the program, The Wallace Foundation Grant came back to Iowa to offer more resource opportunities.

Ms. Montgomery also expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Model Core Curriculum Committee. She felt it was an extraordinary group with challenging tasks to accomplish. She thanked Rita Martens for the exemplary leadership provided to this Committee.

<u>Brian Gentry</u> indicated his first day of serving on the State Board had been extraordinary. He was looking forward to seeing the model core curriculum discussion unfold.

<u>John Jessen</u> expressed his interest in the many topics before the Board and was pleased to have been selected to participate.

<u>Gene Vincent</u> discussed the Board's vote for the NASBE delegates and it was agreed the President would cast the vote for the Iowa State Board.

Vincent also expressed his delight in visiting his 2nd grade adopted class. He had been presented with a book, *Flat Stanley,* signed by all the class members. He stated these visits remind Board members what their work is about.

A list of proposed topics for the State Board Retreat was handed out.

President Gene Vincent adjourned the meeting.

Gene E. Vincent	Judy A. Jeffrey, Director
President	and Executive Officer